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EXTERNAL - POLITICAL

1. Recovery of Spaceship and Animals (OFFICIAL USE ONLY): The recovery of a spaceship capsule containing two dogs and some rodents was the largest news item in the USSR during the week, rapidly displacing the Powers trial although in some respects blended with it. Soviet news media dramatized the recovery of living animals and the weight of the spaceship to claim a still wider margin of superiority over the US in space achievements. Latest US space shots were noted by the Soviet press but were presented in a way which deprecated their importance and which made the Soviet achievements seem even more impressive. While claiming that the Soviet space program is conducted for peaceful, scientific purposes, Soviet propaganda also noted its military significance in a somewhat concealed manner. This was frequently done in connection with the admission by Powers that the U-2 was shot down at 68,000 feet to create a picture of growing Soviet military superiority over the US,

2. Powers Trial (OFFICIAL USE ONLY): Massive coverage of the Powers trial dropped off suddenly, possibly because Moscow considered that it had carried the issue far enough to support its internal vigilance campaign and its attempts abroad to condemn the US. Some papers continue to publish pictures of the equipment alleged to have been captured from the U-2, and scattered throughout Soviet propaganda there are references to the trial supporting the main contentions of Soviet propaganda that the trial was not only of Powers but of US foreign policy generally, that the U-2 incident demonstrates Soviet military superiority, and that current Soviet judicial procedures are humane and just.

3. Sino-Soviet Relations (OFFICIAL USE ONLY): The Soviet press published a brief item announcing that an electric generating plant, for which all the equipment was supplied by the USSR, was completed in Peiping, and reported that 28 other plants are currently being built with Soviet aid in Communist China. This report may have been published to spike reports in the non-Communist world that Soviet specialists are leaving China in connection with larger Sino-Soviet differences.

That there is continuing Sino-Soviet friction, however, was suggested by the continuing publication of articles attacking dogmatism and sectarianism and justifying the Soviet emphasis on avoiding nuclear war. The most recent of these articles by Academician E. Zukov in the August 26 Pravda states that the dogmatists and sectarians ignorantly maintain that the "Leninist principle of peaceful coexistence impedes the development of the international liberation movement and condemns it to stagnation," and that they underrate Soviet influence with the underdeveloped countries such as India, Indonesia, the UAR, Iraq, Burma, Kenya, Ghana, and Cuba.

Other evidence of official coolness between Peiping and Moscow were the press treatment of Chinese Communist officials who passed through the USSR on their way to carry out official visits in other countries. The Chinese Communist Foreign Minister Chen Yi was reported as having been in Tashkent on August 20-21 on his way to Afghanistan. The Soviet press also reported the

the presence in Moscow of the Chinese Communist Minister of Culture Shen Yang-ping, who is heading a cultural delegation to Poland. Both these transit visits were given minimal coverage.

4. Indo-China (CONFIDENTIAL): Pravda published the text of the May 30 Soviet note to the UK proposing joint consideration by the co-chairman of the Geneva Agreements on Indo-China of a North Vietnam protest concerning an increase of MAAG personnel in South Vietnam. The Foreign Ministry release, which carried the text of the note, stated that a reply recently had been received from the British Government which evaded acceptance of the Soviet proposal. The release concluded that an appeal by the co-chairmen to the US Government to abide by the Geneva Agreements would be of great importance for strengthening peace and security in Indo-China and South East Asia. The British note referred to in the Soviet release was delivered on July 31. The delay in giving publicity to this exchange and the mild language of the Foreign Ministry release (which contrasts with the strident tones of Soviet official declarations on the Congo and Cuba), leave the impression that the Soviets are not fanning a new international crisis over Indo-China and that they may have been stimulated by the presence of Ho Chi-minh in the USSR and by recent events in Laos to make some gesture concerning this area. In doing so, Moscow has not deviated from the legalistic and non-militant approach it has adopted toward Indo-China since the Geneva Agreements.

5. The OAS Meeting (ORFICIAL USE ONLY): The OAS Meeting has received moderate space and cautious treatment in the Soviet press, which has avoided any predictions on the possible out come of the Cuban-US debate.

The passage of the resolution calling for economic and diplomatic sanctions against the Dominican Republic was portrayed as a resounding defeat of US efforts to protect Trujillo, and Raul Roa's speech attacking the US as the creator and patron of his regime was prominently reported. Chile's action in breaking diplomatic relations was also mentioned.

Main emphasis, however, was on Soviet-Cuban friendship. Messages of thanks to Khrushchev from Cuban farmer and labor groups were front-paged and the cordial presentation of credentials by the USSR Ambassador as well as Castro's speech reasserting intentions to continue close relations with the USSR and CPR were given prominent space.

Some sensitivity to the US charge that Cuba is training Communist agents was shown by press efforts to ridicule the charge, including a Pravda report of the World Federation of Democratic Youth declaration from Budapest that the object of the US accusation is an innocent WFDY-Cuban youth camp engaged in school building.

6. Sloboda Defection Case: Turncoat US army sergeant V. Sloboda was named as the author of a long statement printed in Pravda and Izvestiya (August 22-23) requesting Soviets for political asylum and describing alleged US espionage activities in West Germany and Berlin from "first hand knowledge." The statement included charges that the CIA directs a vast intelligence network in West Germany with the full knowledge of Bonn, that West Berlin plays a key role in espionage

against the USSR and East Europe, that US plans transport espionage agents destined for penetration of the Soviet bloc between West Berlin and the FRG, and that U-2's are based at Bitburg (FRG). According to television program in August 26 Pravda, Sloboda will address Soviet TV audience tonight on "I break with the enemies of Peace."

7. The Memorandum of the Bundeswehr Generals advocating nuclear and other advanced weapons for the armament of West Germany provoked a strong and continuing critical reaction in the Soviet press. There have been daily feature articles in the two main papers since the news broke, culminating in a half-page "Observer" article in Pravda, August 26. The main points raised by this coverage -- the revival of German militarism and its domination of FRG politics, the potential threat not only to the USSR and the Soviet bloc but also to West Europe and particularly England and France, Bonn's policy of heightening international tensions -- were not novel. The coverage was marked by increasing volume and seriousness of tone (particularly in the "Observer" article).

INTERNAL

8. Appointment of V. M. Molotov to IAEA (OFFICIAL USE ONLY): There has not been any mention in the Soviet press of the appointment of V.M.Molotov to be resident Soviet representative to the International Atomic Energy Agency domiciled in Vienna and announced there August 23. Neither has his name appeared in any other connection here, although the Embassy has an unconfirmed report that the appointment has been mentioned on a Soviet radio broadcast for foreign audiences. Various rumors of Molotov's recent presence in Moscow include one that he attended the August 22 luncheon which Supreme Soviet Presidium Chairman L. I. Brezhnev gave for visiting UAR Vice President Kahali, (and at which A.I.Mikoyan, V.N.Novikov and lesser Soviet officials were among those listed as having been present by the August 23 press accounts of the luncheon).

The assignment of the elderly and reportedly seriously ailing Molotov to the Vienna post may represent, in Soviet leadership eyes, a solution of the dilemma as how to find a suitable assignment not dependant on agreement by another government, sufficiently prominent to counter that portion of the Soviet public which may feel that Molotov had been given rather poor treatment in the past, and still have him out of the way as concerns possible political activity, either in Moscow or with the Chinese in Outer Mongolia. The assignment may also be a prelude to full retirement once his poor health has been amply demonstrated in the Vienna environment.

9. Increased Attention Given Augmentation of Staffs by Part-time Voluntary Workers: (OFFICIAL USE ONLY). Within the past several weeks some increase in press attention given to non-permanent staff or "supernumerary" (vneshtatniy) groups may indicate permanent status for a relatively new mechanism in the Soviet apparatus. Enlisted as part-time "volunteers", energetic activists in their twenties and thirties provide regularly scheduled, but unpaid support to party and governmental organs. They are now most active in the capacities of party instructors (Article in Party Life, No. 14) and on newspaper staffs. According to the August 16 Pravda editorial, 11 major

some raions, papers admit bolstering staffs with such help. In addition, according to Izvestia of August 24, including Sverdlovsk and Dneprodzerzhinsk, have successfully experimented with "supernumerary" bodies in government for over two years. These "supernumeraries" are often students or young professional people filling in gaps on staffs or performing jobs beyond the capacity of the permanent paid staffs. From the regime's point of view such "supernumerary" groups have several advantages: 1) They are an excellent source of unpaid, often technically skilled and educated labor; 2) They provide a steady stream of activists for jobs in which "eagerness" is an important factor (e.g. newspaper "raids" or sanitary inspections); 3) They comprise a good reserve of tested personnel available as functionaries of the future; and, 4) when projects handled by "supernumeraries" are successful, they provide some evidence that progress can be made (under party guidance) toward bringing a greater portion of the population into the functions of government.

10. Moscow Raikom and Ispolkom Elections (OFFICIAL USE ONLY): As evidenced by a series of raion party committee and raion Soviet meetings held in Moscow August 22-25, implementation of the new city-planning proposals has begun immediately. (See: WEEKA No. 34 of Aug.19,1960.) In each of Moscow's 17 municipal and 5 suburban raions the selection of 3 Raikom party secretaries and a chairman and secretary for the Ispolkom of the Raisoviet has been announced. Similar elections to adjust to the new raion boundaries are taking place in the Komsomol and other organizations.

11. Mass Physical Culture Activity Now and in Future
On the eve of the Olympics, an article appearing in the journal Political Self-Education (No. 8) mentions in some detail the "rottenness and degradation" bribery, brutality and moral decay that affect sport in capitalist countries. Entitled "Physical Culture and All-Round Development of the Individual," the article is worthy of some interest because of its timing, admissions of deficiencies in Soviet sport and for its particular version of the vision of communism under which "every member of society will engage in physical culture all his life." (A translation is found in the Soviet Information Bureau's August 25 press review.)

Somewhat out of line with N. S. Krushchev's warm message to Olympic Games participants on August 22, the article attacks the "big business" of capitalist sport and its use by the imperialist bourgeois for "distracting the working people from politics and from the struggle for social liberation."

On the other hand, the article admits that even in Soviet life there are occasional relapses into "star mania", and that sports glory sometimes gives rise to vanity and unhealthy views and tastes including "disregard of the collective" and "individualistic attitudes" on the part of Soviet athletes.

Careful guidance (read: control) of physical culture is the recommended cure for these evils. For those conservative and uncultures executives who display a lack of excitement in sports and who believe it "beneath their dignity" to join other employees in physical exercise programs, Lenin is set up as a model. The reader is assured that with the building of communism the working day will be constantly reduced and as automation cuts the work day and

physical work contracts, sport becomes an "objective necessity." It is asserted that every person can engage systematically in physical culture activity, commensurate with conditions of his age and health. Morning exercises, calisthenics at the work site, and the pursuit of some sport twice a week are recommended.

12. Head of Kazak Supreme Soviet Dies (OFFICIAL USE ONLY): Fazyl K. Karibzhanov, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR (since May, 1960) and Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Kazakhstan SSR (since January 1960) died August 25 after a serious illness. (Pravda of August 26). Karibzhanov has been a leading figure in Kazakhstan since 1953 when he was appointed Minister of Agriculture. By 1954 he was in the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Kazakh CP.

MILITARY Negative.

For the Ambassador:

Robert I. Owen
First Secretary of Embassy

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